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Royal Geographical Society,

1866.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL,

READ AT THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING ON THE 28TH MAY.

THE Council have the pleasure of submitting to the Fellows the customary Annual Report of the financial state and general progress of the Society.

Members.—The number of Fellows has again been largely increased during the year. Since the last Report 157 new Members have been elected, namely, 151 Ordinary (of whom 19 have paid their life compositions), 1 Honorary, and 5 Honorary Corresponding. But during the year the Society has lost 81 Fellows, five of whom were Honorary Corresponding: 57 have been lost by death, 22 by resignation, and 2 have been removed by order of the Council. The total number on the list at the end of April was 2089 Ordinary, 5 Honorary, and 63 Honorary Corresponding Members. At the same date last year the number of Ordinary Members was 1997, and in the previous year (1864) 1907.

Finances.—The Balance-sheet (Appendix A) shows that the receipts (exclusive of balance in hand) exceeded the estimate by the sum of 302*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*, and that the expenditure has fallen short of the estimated amount by 305*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.* In consequence of these favourable results, the Council have been enabled to add 1000*l.* India 5 per Cents. to the funded property, notwithstanding the large sum of 800*l.* spent in expeditions; but the anticipated balance

in hand has been thereby reduced to 99*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* The Society's income was, in 1865, 4905*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, and in 1864 4977*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* The expenditure in 1865 was 4307*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*, and in 1864 3647*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* The increase in the expenditure last year is accounted for by the large sum spent in the promotion of expeditions.

The funded property of the Society now amounts to 13,500*l.*, 11,500*l.* of which are invested in New 3 per Cents. and 2000*l.* in India 5 per Cents.; 1000*l.* have been added since December 31, 1865, the end of the financial year. This sum exceeds by 500*l.* the total amount of life compositions of living compounders, the number of whom on the 30th of April last was 520. In 1864, as may be seen in the Council Report of that year, the reserved Fund fell short of the life compositions by nearly 2000*l.*, notwithstanding the great improvement effected during the same year. The sound condition which the monetary affairs of the Society have now attained is due chiefly to the vigilance of the Finance Committee throughout the last three years.

A legacy of 4000*l.* has been bequeathed to the Society by one of its members, the late Benjamin Oliveira, Esq. The bequest formed one of several left to various institutions, and the personal estate of the testator not sufficing to pay the whole in full, the executors filed a bill in Chancery with a view to the equitable apportionment of the assets. The solicitors to the executors having selected, from the number of legatees, the Royal Geographical Society to defend the suit, the Council were recommended by their legal advisers to appear in it, and they are now informed that there is good prospect of an early and favourable adjudication.

The system of monthly examination of the accounts by the Finance Committee, established in 1864, has been continued throughout the year, and all bills due by the Society are paid at the next monthly meeting following their presentation. As will be seen in the Balance-sheet (Appendix A), the accounts have been audited to the end of the year 1865; they have also been examined to the end of April in the present year.

STATEMENT showing the RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the Society from the Year 1848 to the 31st Dec. 1865.

STATEMENT showing the Progress of the INVESTMENTS of the Society from the Year 1832 to the 31st Dec. 1865.

Year.	Cash Receipts within the Year.			Cash Amounts invested in Funds.			Deducting Amounts invested in Funds; actual Expenditure.	End of the Year, Dec. 31.	Cash invested.			Amount of Stock purchased.		
	£.	s.	d.				£.	s.	d.			£.	s.	d.
1848	696	10	5	..	..		755	6	1	1832	3657	10	0	4000 0 0
1849	778	3	0	..	..		1098	7	6	1833	4130	0	0	4500 0 0
1850	1036	10	5	..	..		877	2	10	1834	4426	0	0	4800 0 0
1851	1056	11	8	..	..		906	14	7	1835	4426	0	0	4800 0 0
1852	1220	3	4	..	..		995	13	1	1836	4426	0	0	4800 0 0
1853	1917	2	6	..	..		1675	6	0	1837	4426	0	0	4800 0 0
1854	2565	7	8	..	..		2197	19	3	1838	4426	0	0	4800 0 0
1855	2584	7	0	..	..		2636	3	1	1839	4129	15	0	4500 0 0
1856	3372	5	1	533	10 0		2814	8	1	1840	3788	10	0	4150 0 0
1857	3142	13	4	378	0 0		3480	19	9	1841	2801	0	0	3150 0 0
1858	3089	15	1	..	..		2944	13	6	1842	2801	0	0	3150 0 0
1859	3471	11	8	950	0 0		3423	3	9	1843	2219	18	6	2578 4 4
1860	6449	12	1	466	17 6		5406	3	7	1844	2219	18	6	2578 4 4
1861	4792	12	9	1358	2 6		3074	7	4	1845	2219	18	6	2578 4 4
1862	4659	7	9	1389	7 6		3095	19	4	1846	1933	1	0	2278 4 4
1863	5256	9	3	1837	10 0		3655	4	0	1847	2133	1	0	2502 6 2
1864	4977	8	6	1796	5 0		3647	7	10	1848	1886	16	8	2224 1 10
1865	4905	8	3	1041	5 0		4307	4	5	1849	1886	16	8	2224 1 10
In 1856 a Treasury Grant of 1000 <i>l.</i> for the East African Expedition received. In 1860 a Treasury Grant of 2500 <i>l.</i> for the East African Expedition received.								1850	1886	16	8	2224	1	10
								1851	1886	16	8	2224	1	10
								1852	1886	16	8	2224	1	10
								1853	1662	14	10	2000	0	0
								1854	1662	14	10	2000	0	0
								1855	1662	14	10	2000	0	0
								1856	2216	4	10	2600	0	0
								1857	2594	4	10	3000	0	0
								1858	2594	4	10	3000	0	0
								1859	3544	4	10	4000	0	0
								1860	4011	2	4	4500	0	0
								1861	5369	4	10	6000	0	0
								1862	6758	12	4	7500	0	0
								1863	8596	2	4	9500	0	0
								1864	10365	7	4	11500	0	0
								1865	11406	12	4	12500	0	0*

* Of which 1000*l.* is India 5 per Cents.

Arrears.—Since the last anniversary the subject of arrears of subscription has been carefully inquired into by the Finance Committee, and they have now recommended to the Council that Clause 4, Chap. IV., of the Regulations, which requires the removal from the list of Fellows of all those who are defaulters for three years be put in force against those who shall not have paid their arrears by the 1st of August next.

As subscriptions sometimes fall in arrear on Members leaving England, it is recommended to all who are going abroad and wish to retain their connection with the Society, to leave with the Secretaries a standing order on their Agents for the payment of their subscriptions, forms of which can be obtained at the Society's rooms.

Free-list.—The Council have considered that it would advance the interests of the Society to admit a very limited number of gentlemen to the Fellowship who, although distinguished for their services to Geography and desirous of belonging to the Society, have not the means to enable them to do so. They have, therefore, to submit to the Meeting a new Clause, proposed to be added to Chap. II. of the Regulations, which, if approved of, will empower them to remit the usual payments in these cases.

Publications.—The Council have great satisfaction in announcing that the volume of the Journal has this year been issued at a much earlier date than has been the case for many years past, having been published on the 9th of April. It comprises an average number of important memoirs, and the attention of Fellows is especially directed to the valuable series of original Maps that it contains, some of which have been compiled after much research and at considerable cost.

The 9th volume of Proceedings has also been completed and delivered to the Members since the last anniversary, and three parts of the 10th volume, containing the Reports of the Meetings of the present Session down to the 12th of March, have been issued.

The Council have again the pleasure of reporting an increase in the sale of publications during the past year, the amount being 124*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* In the year 1864 the total sales were 105*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.*, and in 1863 65*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*

Library.—406 volumes of Geographical and other works have been added to the Library since the last Report, 39 of which were purchased.

The re-arrangement of the Library undertaken on the completion of the Catalogue last year is nearly finished, and greater facilities are now afforded to those Members who wish to make use

of this large collection of Geographical works for the purpose of research. The Library Committee have in contemplation the expenditure of the sum of 100*l.*, voted by the Council the previous year for additions to the Library, and invite Members to propose such books as they may deem necessary to be acquired, by inscribing their titles in the Recommendation Book kept for this purpose in the Library.

Map-Collection.—The accessions to this department since the last anniversary have been above the average, consisting of 2109 sheets of Maps and Charts, 9 Atlases, and 7 Diagrams.

The Map-room continues to be visited by a large number of Fellows, travellers, and the general public, for the purpose of consulting the collection.

The following accessions deserve especial notice :—

1636 sheets of the Ordnance Maps of Great Britain and Ireland, on various scales. Presented by the Topographical Office.

63 Charts. Presented by the Admiralty.

46 Maps, on 106 sheets, of the India Survey, presented by the India Office through Colonel Thuillier, Surveyor-General of India.

9 Sheets of the Topographical Map, and

5 Sheets of the Geological Survey of Sweden. Presented by the Swedish Government.

6 Sheets of the large Topographical Map of Denmark. Presented by the Danish Government.

7 Sheets of the Basin of the Amur. Presented by M. Schwartz.

94 Charts. Presented by the French Minister of Marine.

Atlas of Queensland. Presented by the Governor of Queensland.

Atlas and Maps of the United States of Columbia. Presented by the Grand General T. C. de Mosquera.

Raaz's Relief Atlas, on 4 sheets, in photolithography.

Ziegler's Hypsometrical Map of Switzerland. Presented by the Author.

Kiepert and Lepsius' Maps of the Nile Valley. Presented by Dr. Kiepert.

Kiepert's Russia in Europe. Presented by Dr. Kiepert.

6 Sheets of Map of Eastern Europe. Presented by Dr. Petermann.

Nordenskiöld's Chart of Spitzbergen. Presented by the Author.

Richardson's Survey Route of Jardine's Expedition. Presented by the Governor of Queensland.

6 Sheets of the Official Survey of the Argentine Republic. Presented by Don Saturnino Salas, Hon. Corr. Mem. R.G.S.

MS. Survey Map of the River Purûs. Presented by W. Chandless, Esq., M.A.

Large Diagrams.—A Special Committee of Council, consisting of Vice-Admiral Sir George Back, Rear-Admiral R. Collinson, and Major-General G. Balfour, has been engaged during the present Session in directing the construction of large Diagrams for the illustration of Papers at the evening Meetings, and to complete the series of which the Society's large Maps of Africa and Australia form part. Four of these Diagrams have been determined upon,—namely, Asia, the Malay Archipelago, South America, and the World on Mercator's projection; and great pains are being taken to ensure correctness by consulting personally some of the best living authorities on the various countries. It is hoped that the Diagram of Asia will be ready at the commencement of the next Session.

The Committee has also taken steps to ensure the completion of a Catalogue of the Maps in the Society's collection, and has obtained the sanction of Council to the appointment of an extra Assistant to aid in its compilation. At the next anniversary the Council hope to be able to report the termination of this work, which will give additional facilities to the consultation of the great stores of Maps now in the Society's possession.

Grants to Travellers.—The sum of 800*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* was expended, during the year 1865, in grants made to promote new explorations. Of this 500*l.* was given to Dr. Livingstone, in aid of his expedition to the Lakes of Central Africa; 107*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* to Sir Henry James, towards the expenses of the settlement of the level of the Dead Sea, undertaken by Captain Wilson, R.E.; 143*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* in money and instruments to Mr. R. B. N. Walker, who is exploring Western Equatorial Africa from the Gaboon; and 50*l.*, in addition to 50*l.* previously given, to M. Gérard Rohlfs, who has undertaken a journey to the Sultan of Waday, in the hope of recovering the Papers of the unfortunate Vogel.

During the present year the sum of 250*l.* has already been given to travellers or in aid of expeditions, the details of which appear in the estimate for the current year's expenses.

APPENDIX A.

BALANCE-SHEET FOR THE YEAR 1865.

Receipts.

Expenditure.

£. s. d.			£. s. d.				
Balance in Banker's hands 31st Dec., 1864	511	13	Rent, Taxes, and House Expenses	..	455	2	9
Ditto Accountant's Ditto	30	12	Salaries and Wages..	..	1126	11	10
Subscriptions of 1296 Fellows	2589	16	Library and Map-Room ..	..	121	8	1
Entrance Fees of 165 Fellows	495	0	Subscriptions, &c., returned	..	48	4	0
Life Compositions of 24 Fellows	598	0	Gold Medals, &c. ..	..	86	0	0
Arrears of Subscriptions ..	206	0	Postages, &c. ..	..	108	7	5
Parliamentary Grant ..	..	..	Office Expenses	..	203	0	6
Sale of Publications ..	..	..	Publications and Illustrations	..	922	6	0
Rent of Stables ..	..	..	Library Catalogue ..	..	308	1	5
Half Year's Dividend on 11,500 <i>l.</i> New 3	168	3	Furniture and Repairs ..	..	86	2	0
per Cents. ...	..	..	Expenditures:				
Half Year's Dividend on 1000 <i>l.</i> India 5	24	11	Contribution towards the settlement	107	7	9	
per Cents. ..	..	..	of the Dead Sea level ..	143	0	6	
Half Year's Dividend on 11,500 <i>l.</i> New 3	169	12	Walker's Expedition	500	0	0	
per Cents. ...	..	..	Dr. Living-				
			stone's Expedition ..	50	0	0	
			" " M. Géhard ..	50	0	0	
			Rohlf's Expedition ..	..	..	..
			Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..
			Addition to Funded Property (1000 <i>l.</i>)	..	..	..
			India 5 per Cents. ..	£86	15	3	
			Balance in Banker's hands	12	9	7	
			Ditto Accountant's "	99	4	10	
				£5447	14	3	

REGINALD T. COCKS, <i>Treasurer.</i>	Audited 28th March, 1866.	THOMAS H. BROOKING, G. BALFOUR, CHARLES WHITE, H. JONES WILLIAMS,	<i>Auditors.</i>
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APPENDIX B.

ESTIMATE FOR THE YEAR 1866.

<i>Receipts.</i>				<i>Expenditure.</i>			
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Cash Balance, 1st Jan., 1866	99	4	10	Journal, with Maps, and Proceedings	1100 0 0
Annual Subscriptions	2600	0	0	Rent, Taxes, and House Expenses	..	..	600 0 0
Life Compositions	425	0	0	Salaries (whole Staff) and Wages	..	..	1260 0 0
Entrance Fees	375	0	0	Library and Map-Rooms	..	..	220 0 0
Arrears of Subscriptions	150	0	0	Office Expenses	..	..	220 0 0
Royal Premium for 1865 and 1866	105	0	0	Postages	..	..	120 0 0
Parliamentary Grant	500	0	0	Gold Medals and other Awards	..	..	177 5 0
Sale of Publications	125	0	0	EXPEDITIONS:—	£.	s.	d.
Dividends and Small Receipts	420	0	0	In search of Leichhardt	..	..	200 0 0
Compensation for Stables taken by the Waterloo and Whitehall Railway	220	0	0	M. Gérard Rohlf's	..	..	50 0 0
							250 0 0
							3947 5 0
				Available for investment	..	..	1000 0 0
				Balance	..	..	71 19 10
							£5019 4 10